

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4832

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6513

OPORTO ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO, PINS, MILI, OVIP

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LISBON 6338 DTG 281342Z OCT 75

SUMMARY: NOV 3 LISBON DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF MPLA IN ANGOLA AND FRETELIN IN TIMOR ATTRACTED ONLY 1,000 PARTICIPANTS. COMMUNIST PARTY'S FAILURE TO SUPPORT RALLY WILL PRODUCE FURTHER STRAINS IN COMMUNIST-FAR LEFT TACTICAL ALLIANCE. COPCON RAPIDLY AND EFFECTIVELY DEBUNKED LATEST ROUND OF "REACTIONARCY COUP" STORIES. AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT DISPLAYED INCREASING CONFIDENCE IN DEALING WITH COMMUNIST-LINING MEDIA. COPCON COMMANDER CARVALHO PAID ANOTHER CONFIDENTIAL

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FENCE-MENDING CALL ON QUELUZ INFANTRY REGIMENT. PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO WILL TRAVEL TO THE ALGARVE, NOV 4, IN THE SECOND OF HIS VISITS TO THE PROVINCES. END SUMMARY.

1. FUR RALLY: ONLY 1,000 PEOPLE TURNED OUT FOR NOV 3 RALLY CALLED BY LEFTIST UNITED REVOLUTIONARY FRONT (FUR) IN SUPPORT OF MPLA IN ANGOLA AND FRETELIN IN TIMOR. MPLA SPOKESMAN DENOUNCED ATTEMPTS OF "PORTUGUESE BOURGEOISIE TO SELL ANGOLA TO INTERNATIONAL BOURGEOISIE BY PROMOTING RECONCILIATION AMONG VARIOUS ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS." FRETELIN REPRESENTATIVE CONDEMNED FORMIN ANTUNES'S MEETINGS WITH INDONESIAN FONMIN. STATEMENT PRESENTED BY FUR SECRETARIAT DENOUNCING AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT'S "REACTIONARY POLICY OF OBEDIENCE TO THE INTERESTS OF IMPERIALISM" AND "OBSTINANCY" IN FAILING TO RECOGNIZE MPLA AND FRETELIN AS THE ONLY LEGITIMATE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE TERRITORIES, WAS APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION. PCP WITHHELD FORMAL SUPPORT FOR FUR DEMONSTRATION, AND WILL HOLD OWN MPLA "SOLIDARITY" RALLY NOV 4.

2. COPCON REFUTES COUP STORY: COPCON ISSUED STATEMENT NOV 3 DENYING CHARGES OF COMMITTEE OF REVOLUTIONARY VIGILANCE (CVR) THAT MILITARY MANEUVERS WERE RELATED TO RIGHTIST COUP PLOTTING. COPCON STATED THAT CVR HAD "ENORMOUSLY DISTORTED THE TRUTH, MAKING GRAVE, GRATUITOUS AND IRRESPONSIBLE ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING MILITARY LEADERS." COPCON BACKHANDED THE COMMUNIST PRESS BY LAMENTING THAT SUCH "PERNICIOUS MISINFORMATION, WHICH CAUSED GREAT ANXIETY, WAS PARADOXICALLY TRANSMITED BY MEDIA ANXIOUS TO SERVE THE PUBLIC." COPCON POINTED OUT THAT IT HAD OVERALL CHARGE OF PLANNING FORTHCOMING NORMAL MILITARY MANEUVERS, AND THAT DATE OF MANEUVERS WAS NOT SET. COMMUNIST-LINING "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS," WHICH HAD PLAYED UP CVR COUP WARNING, PERVERTED COPCON STATEMENT ON NOV 4 WITH HEADLINE "COPCON ADMITS THAT MILITARY MANEUVERS INOPPORTUNE".

3. OTELO CAMPAIGNS: COPCON COMMANDER OTELO CARVALHO CONTINUED HIS FENCE-MENDING EFFORTS WITH A NOV 3 VISIT TO QUELUZ INFANTRY REGIMENT, NEAR LISBON. OTELO TOLD OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN THAT NEW CONCEPT OF MILITARY DISCIPLINE MUST BE BASED ON POLITICAL CONFIDENCE AS WELL AS PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE. HE ARGUED THAT SOCIALISM SHOULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH "ORGANIZATIONS OF CONFIDENTIAL

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POPULAR POWER."

4. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMUNIQUE: COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (CM) ISSUED TWO SIGNIFICANT COMMUNIQUE ON NOV 3. IN FIRST, CM CALLED FOR JOINT MEETING WITH REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL TO DISCUSS CURRENT CRISIS OF AUTHORITY AND MEASURES TO RESOLVE IT. COMMUNIQUE STRESSED NECESSITY OF ENFORCING OCT 17 BAN ON MILITARY ARMS IN CIVILIAN HANDS AND POINTEDLY NOTED THAT ENFORCEMENT OF PROHIBITION DEPENDS ON MILITARY. IN SECOND COMMUNIQUE, CM NOTING WIDESPREAD INTERNATIONAL APPROVAL FOR PORTUGUESE DECOLONIZATION PROGRAM, REJECTED CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT FOR SITUATION IN ANGOLA AND TIMOR. CM ALSO CALLED ON INFORMATPON MINISTER TO MOVE FORWARD RAPIDLY IN RESTRUCTURING

MEDIA, ESPECIALLY THE PRESS, SO AS TO OVERCOME THE OBSTACLES TO "OBJECTIVITY, NON-PARTISANSHIP, AND PLURALISM" WHICH HAVE CHARACTERIZED THAT SECTOR. IN ADDITION, CM ANNOUNCED THAT GOVERNMENT WOULD CONDUCT INQUIRY INTO "O SECULO" CASE.

5. PRIME MINISTER AZEVEDO WILL TRAVEL TO FARO, CAPITAL OF THE ALGARVE, NOV 4 IN THE SECOND OF HIS VISITS TO THE HEARTLAND. AS HAPPENED IN OPORT OCT 25, THE SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) AND THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD) WILL ORGANIZE DEMONSTRATION OF SUPPORT FOR AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT. PARTY LEADERS, MARIO SOARES AND FRANCISCO SA CARNEIRO WILL BE PRESENT, AND AZEVEDO WILL SPEAK AT DEMONSTRATION, EVENING OF NOV 4. AZEVEDO WILL LUNCH WITH SOUTHERN REGION MILITARY COMMANDER PEZERAT CORREIA-A SUPPORTER OF THE "ANTUNES NINE" - AND WILL LEND SUPPORT TO RECENTLY-NAMED SOCIALIST CIVIL GOVERNOR, JULIO DE ALMEIDA CARRAPATO, WHO OVERCAME LEFTIST PROTESTS OF HIS RECENT NOMINATION (REFTEL).

6. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE CRACKS DOWN: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE RELEASED COMMUNIQUE EXPLAINING THAT COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZING DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF AGRARIAN REFORM CENTER FOR PORTALEGRE DISTRICT WERE REMOVED, AND TRANSFERRED TO LISBON FOR FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF LAWS. AMONG VIOLATIONS CITED WERE UNAUTHORIZED PURGE OF NON-COMMUNIST MEMBERS OF PORTALEGRE STAFF, ATTEMPT TO REQUIRE PERSONAL LOYALTY OATH OF OTHER PORTALEGRE STAFF, AND ORGANIZATION OF A MEETING OF RURAL WORKERS TO ATTACK MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND HIS STAFF.

(COMMENT: NEW MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE TEAM CAN AFFORD TO BE MORE ASSERTIVE IN PORTALEGRE, WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE NORTHERN LIMITS  
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OF COMMUNIST RURAL STRENGTH.)

7. REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL: IN STATEMENT RELEASED NOV 4, REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (RC) REPUDIATED NOV 3 REPORT BY SOCIALIST DAILY "A LUTA" THAT ARMED FORCES INTELLIGENCE SERVICES ARE CONSIDERING SPENDING OVER THREE AND ONE-HALF MILLION DOLLARS ON ELECTRONIC EAVESDROPPING EQUIPMENT. STATEMENT ANNOUNCED THAT LEGAL MEASURES HAD BEEN INITIATED AGAINST "A LUTA" AND CALLED FOR FORMATION OF COMMITTEE OF CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY MEMBERS TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS. CURIOUSLY ENOUGH, RC HAS NOT MOVED AGAINST "JORNAL NOVO" FOR EARLIER ARTICLE WHICH CLAIMED THAT THERE ARE 10,000 WIRETAPS PER DAY IN PORTUGAL.

8. PCP GOVERNOR IN SETUBAL: HELDER NOBRE DA SILVA MADEIRA, A COMMUNIST, WAS SWORN IN AS CIVIL GOVERNOR OF SETUBAL. THIRTY-SIX YEARS OLD, MADEIRA WAS BORN IN BARREIRO, AN INDUSTRIAL AREA ACROSS THE TAGUS RIVER FROM LISBON. HE IS AN OFFICE WORKER BY PROFESSION. PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT AS CIVIL GOVERNOR HE SERVED ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION OF THE BARREIRO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL. SOCIALISTS DECIDED TO GRANT THE COMMUNISTS THE SETUBAL GOVERNORSHIP, DESPITE FACT PS NARROWLY EDGED PCP IN THAT DISTRICT.

9. COMMENT: LOW TURNOUT FOR NOV 3 FUR RALLY IS ANOTHER INDICATION OF DECREASING ABILITY OF FAR LEFT TO PRODUCE LARGE CROWDS IN SUPPORT OF ITS POSITIONS. PCP'S WITHOLDING OF SUPPORT FOR RALLY AND SCHEDULING OF OWN "ANTI-IMPERIALIST EVENT" FOR FOLLOWING DAY WILL PLACE FURTHER STRAINS ON PCP-FAR LEFT TACTICAL ALLIANCE.

10. REFUTATION BY COPCON, A FREQUENT SUPPORTER OF THE LATEST ROUND OF "REACTIONARY COUP" STORIES COULD FURTHER DAMAGE CREDIBILITY OF COMMUNIST-LINING MEDIA. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' CALL FOR RAPID RESTRUCTURING OF MEDIA AND WILLINGNESS TO TAKE ON COMPLICATED "O SECULO" PROBLEM ARE INDICATIONS OF AZEVEDO GOVERNMENT'S CONFIDENCE THAT IT HAS THE POPULAR SUPPORT TO INSIST ON MORE OBJECTIVE MEDIA.  
CARLUCCI

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## Message Attributes

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